

and packing of plywood intended for construction and industrial uses.

The proposed revision of the standard, PS 1–95, Construction and Industrial Plywood, has been developed and is being processed in accordance with Department of Commerce provisions in Title 15 Code of Federal Regulations Part 10, Procedures for the Development of Voluntary Product Standards, as amended (published June 20, 1986). The Standing Committee for PS 1 is responsible for maintaining, revising, and interpreting the standard and comprises producers, distributors, users, and others with an interest in the standard.

After reviewing the standard, the Committee determined that portions of it were obsolete and technically inadequate and needed to be revised to reflect current industry practices. The Committee held meetings to review the standard and make needed changes. Much of the work was performed by the document's sponsor, APA—The Engineered Wood Association. Committee members voted on the revision and it was approved by at least three-quarters of the membership. The Committee submitted a report to NIST with the voting results and the draft revised standard. NIST has determined that the revised standard should be issued for public comment.

Included in this standard are test methods to determine compliance and a glossary of trade terms and definitions. A quality certification program is provided whereby qualified testing agencies inspect, sample, and test products identified as complying with this standard. Information on species grouping is provided in Appendix A; information on reinspecting practices is provided in Appendix B; and information on the maintenance, history, and current edition of the standard is provided in Appendix C.

This Voluntary Product Standard incorporates the International System of Units (SI) as well as U.S. customary units of measurement. In conversion of U.S. customary units where exact placement is not an issue, such as nail spacing, approximate conversions to SI units are made to yield more easily recognizable numbers. In critical matters, such as panel thickness, more precise conversions to SI units are made. For nominal U.S. customary units, actual dimensions in SI units are given. The values given in SI units are the standard. The values in parentheses are for information only. Advisory notes in this standard and Appendices B and C shall not be considered mandatory.

This revision includes the following changes:

(1) Name Change—Since its inception in 1966 when three regional plywood standards were consolidated, the title of PS 1 has been Construction and Industrial Plywood. This revision changes the name to Structural Plywood as that name is more consistent with marketplace terminology.

(2) Deletion of Interior and Intermediate Bond Classifications—Provisions, test methods, and criteria for plywood manufactured with Interior and Intermediate Bond Classifications were removed from the standard because the use of such adhesive systems had become rare since the industry had transitioned to moisture resistant adhesives in the 1950s.

(3) Mold/bacteria tests—Test methods and associated criteria for assessing the potential for mold and bacteria growth on the adhesives used to manufacture plywood were eliminated. Those methods were developed and relevant only to the Interior and Intermediate types of adhesives used decades ago and which had long become obsolete since the industry switched to moisture resistant adhesives.

(4) Terminology—Terminology related to Bond Classifications was revised to clarify that adhesive classification methods were specific to wet bonding strength and did not address other modes of natural degradation of plywood. In addition, the terminology “Interior Bonded with Exterior Glue” was replaced with its alternate term “Exposure 1” as that term has become common in the marketplace.

(5) Performance Testing Language—Language clarifying the sampling and pass/fail criteria of performance testing was revised to be consistent with the language in PS 2–04, Performance Standard for Wood-Based Structural-Use Panels.

(6) Table 1—This Table was modified to better reflect the species included in the various Groups and the text referring to Table 1 was also modified accordingly.

(7) Appendix A on Assignment of Species Grouping—This mandatory appendix was added to the standard to clarify the process by which species had been evaluated for tabulation in Table 1.

(8) Overlays—The prescriptive definitions of High Density Overlays (HDO) and Medium Density Overlays (MDO) were revised to reflect commercially available products based on input from producers of overlays and overlaid plywood. In addition, HDO grades were differentiated into HDO-concrete form and HDO-industrial and MDO grades were differentiated into MDO-concrete form and MDO-general to

recognize that overlays are designed and manufactured to satisfy specific end-use requirements.

(9) Repairs—The size permitted for synthetic repairs was modified to create compatibility with permissible wood repairs.

(10) Exterior Plywood Grades—Table 3 on Exterior Plywood Grades was revised to incorporate new grades of overlaid plywood and concrete form grades.

(11) Underlayment—Section 5.6.3 on Underlayment was revised to clarify the grade and intended end-use.

(12) Minimum Grade for Exposure 1—Table 2 on Exposure 1 grades was revised to permit D-D grade only for plywood qualified through performance testing specified in PS 1 or PS 2. This change creates compatibility with the minimum grade permitted in PS 2.

Concurrent with this **Federal Register** Notice, the proposed Voluntary Product Standard PS 1–06 is being distributed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology to national experts and other interested parties for review and comment, in order to ensure that the standard constitutes acceptable industry practice. All public comments will be reviewed and considered. The Standing Committee for PS 1 and NIST will revise the standard accordingly.

Dated: December 20, 2006.

James E. Hill,

Acting Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. E6–22435 Filed 12–28–06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Highly Migratory Species Dealer Reporting Family of Forms

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 27, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Dianne Stephan, Highly Migratory Species Division, Northeast Regional Office, at 978-281-9397, or Dianne.Stephan@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

Under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is responsible for management of the Nation's marine fisheries. NMFS must also comply with implementing the United States' international obligations as set forth in the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act (16 U.S.C. 971 *et seq.*). NMFS must collect domestic landings data for Atlantic highly migratory species via dealer reports in order to provide information vital for fishery management. In addition, the United States must monitor the import, export, and re-export of bluefin tuna, frozen bigeye tuna and swordfish in order to comply with international obligations established through membership in the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). ICCAT has implemented a trade monitoring program for bluefin tuna, frozen bigeye tuna and swordfish to discourage illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing activities as well as further understanding of catches and international trade for these species. Similar objectives are the basis for the Southern bluefin tuna trade monitoring program established by the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT). Although the United States is not a member of the CCSBT, effective management of the Southern bluefin tuna resource is in the best interest of United States fish dealers involved in the commerce of this species. Thus, the United States has implemented the CCSBT trade monitoring program, along with the analogous ICCAT programs.

This collection serves as a family of forms for Atlantic highly migratory species dealer reporting requirements including the purchase of highly migratory species from fishermen and

the import, export, and/or re-export of highly migratory species.

II. Method of Collection

Information may be mailed or faxed.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0648-0040.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 2,280.

Estimated Time Per Response: 5 minutes each for statistical documents and re-export certificates; 1 minute for tagging, 2 hours for validation; 15 minutes for HMS International Trade biweekly report; 15 minutes for Southeast Region HMS biweekly dealer report and Northeast Region trip tickets; 3 minutes for Southeast Region HMS biweekly dealer negative reporting; 15 minutes for Atlantic BFT biweekly dealer report; and 2 minutes for Atlantic bluefin tuna landing cards.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 46,427.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: \$19,862.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: December 22, 2006.

Gwellnar Banks,

Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. E6-22336 Filed 12-28-06; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request; Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Vessel Chartering Permits

AGENCY: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 27, 2007.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Diana Hynek, Departmental Paperwork Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 6625, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20230 (or via the Internet at dHynek@doc.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument and instructions should be directed to Karyl Brewster-Geisz, National Marine Fisheries Service at (301) 713-2347 or Karyl.Brewster-Geisz@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issues Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Chartering Permits to applicable vessels to allow U.S. fishing vessels to fish for HMS within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of other nations in a manner consistent with another country's regulations. The permits collect data consistent with an International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) recommendation that states that at the time of the chartering arrangement, the chartering and flag Contracting parties shall provide specific information concerning the charter to the ICCAT Executive Secretary, including vessel details, target species, duration, and consent of the flag Contracting Party or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, Entity, or Fishing Entity. Current regulations require U.S. vessels to